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REMARKS

By this amendment claims 1, 3, and 6 have been amended, claim 2 has been canceled, and claims 54-61 have been added. Claims 21-39 were canceled by the Examiner in the Notice of Allowance of November 22, 2004. Claim 41 was canceled in a previous amendment.

Claims 1, 3-20, 40, and 42-61 are now pending in the application. Reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

In the Notice of Allowability of November 22, 2004, the Examiner canceled claims 1-14 after the appeal. The Applicant finds this change unacceptable, as some had been objected to prior to the appeal. The Applicant is now reinstating and amending some of these claims.

In the Office Action of November 19, 2002, the Examiner mentioned that claims 2-6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of claim 2. It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is now allowable.

As a result of the amendment to claim 1, claim 2 has been canceled, and claims 3 and 6 have been amended to now depend from claim 1.

Dependent claims 3-14 recite additional features of the invention and are therefore believed to be allowable for the same reasons recited above with respect to claim 1 and for the additional features recited therein.

Claims 15-20, 40, and 42-43 were indicated to be allowable by the Examiner in the Notice of Allowance of November 22, 2004.

Claims 44-53 were indicated to be allowable by the Examiner in the Office Action of November 19, 2002, but were mistakenly left out of the Notice of Allowability of November 22, 2004. The Examiner confirmed by telephone on February 9, 2005, that

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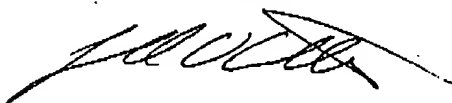
these claims should have appeared on the Notice of Allowability, and that a supplemental Notice of Allowability would be issued. However, the Applicant decided to proceed with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination to have the present amendment entered.

New claims 54-61 recite a snowmobile having, *inter alia*, a control system constructed to operate using a method similar to the method of claim 1, and should therefore be allowable. The Applicant respectfully requests that these claims be entered.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 3-20, 40, and 42-61 are now allowable and that the entire application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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